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State Dept. review completed

The Honorable Sinclair Weeks  
Secretary of Commerce  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have your letter of June 16, commenting on a report prepared by your Bureau of the Census on "The Population of Czechoslovakia," and suggesting that I might wish to check up on the desirability of such expenses by this Agency.

These population studies are undertaken as basic research essential to the discharge of our responsibilities under the National Security Act. They form indispensable foundations for economic and military estimates. Not only are each of them approved by appropriate reviewing machinery within this Agency, but they are also subject to periodic review by the appropriate subcommittee of the Economic Intelligence Committee which represents all government departments interested in foreign economic intelligence.

The only reason for having this work done by your Census Bureau rather than by a staff of our own is to avoid duplication and to obtain the most competent possible job at the least expense to the taxpayer. You may be interested to know that the Office of the High Commissioner in Germany has commented on the exceptional value to it of the study made of the population of the West German Republic.

I think you need not be further concerned about the desirability and need for the research projects which the Bureau of the Census performs for this Agency.

Sincerely yours,

O/DD/I:RAJr.:avl  
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Allen W. Dulles  
Director

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